<u>ABSTRACT</u>

Disclosed is a latching assembly for use to lock the tailgate of a dump body of a truck. This assembly has a latch catch which is fixed to the tailgate and is devised in such a manner as to allow adjustment of the distance between its contact surface and the tailgate. The assembly has a pivotable hook with a projection positioned and shaped to abut against the contact surface of the latch catch. An actuator is provided to transmit pivotal movement to the hook via a set of links so as to turn this hook between a first position wherein the hook projection abuts against the contact surface of the latch catch, thereby preventing opening of the tailgate, and a second position wherein the hook projection is released from the latch catch, thereby enabling the tailgate to open.